

Intervention: Skills, Opportunities, and Recognition (SOAR)

Finding: Insufficient evidence to determine effectiveness

Potential partners to undertake the intervention:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonprofits or local coalitions | <input type="checkbox"/> Businesses or labor organizations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools or universities | <input type="checkbox"/> Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health care providers | <input type="checkbox"/> Local public health departments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State public health departments | <input type="checkbox"/> Policymakers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals, clinics or managed care organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Background on the intervention:

Skills, Opportunities, and Recognition (SOAR) is a three-part intervention for teachers, parents, and students in grades one through six. It is a universal prevention program with interventions designed to reduce specific, empirically identified risk factors and to increase protective factors at the individual, peer, family, and school levels.

Findings from the systematic reviews:

The Office for Educational Research and Improvement (OERI) found insufficient evidence to determine effectiveness for SOAR. Practices that lack sufficient research to support effectiveness should not be confused with ineffective programs. Rather, they should be recognized as programs that have the potential to become evidence-based practices—if properly evaluated. Practitioners are encouraged to monitor the impact of these programs in their communities and report on their findings in order to build a base of knowledge sufficient to reach consensus.

OERI cited SOAR as a promising program, and the National Institute for Drug Abuse (NIDA) listed it as an exemplary program. Please see the links below for more information.

Additional information:

SOAR - <http://www.channing-bete.com/positiveyouth/pages/SOAR/SOAR.html>

References:

OERI - [Exemplary and Promising: Safe, Disciplined, and Drug-Free Schools Programs](http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/exemplary01) - www.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/exemplary01

NIDA - [Preventing Drug Use Among Children and Adolescents: A Research-Based Guide](http://www.nida.nih.gov/Prevention/Prevopen.html) - www.nida.nih.gov/Prevention/Prevopen.html